

Slapped Cheek Syndrome

Description: Slapped Cheek Syndrome is a viral infection most common in children, which usually causes a bright red rash on the cheeks of the face.



Symptoms:

- Slightly raised temperature
- Runny nose, sore throat and headache
- Upset stomach and general feeling of being unwell

A few days later, you will experience:

- A distinctive bright red rash on both cheeks of the face (the so-called Slapped Cheeks)
- A few days later a light pink rash may appear on the chest, stomach, arms and thighs. This often has a raised lace-like appearance and may be itchy. The rash will normally fade within a week or two.

How is it spread?

- By inhaling droplets that are sneezed or coughed out from an infected person.
- By touching contaminated surfaces or objects and transferring the infection to your mouth or nose

How long is it infectious?

- Slapped Cheek Syndrome usually develops 4-14 days after becoming infected.
- It is most contagious in the initial period.
- Once the rash has appeared, the condition is no longer contagious.

How long should my child stay home from school?

- Unless your child is feeling unwell, there is no need for your child to be away from school once the rash has developed.